

LECTOTYPIFICATION AND STATUS OF *VACCINIUM MARGARETTAE* ASHE (ERICACEAE)

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ABSTRACT

Vaccinium margarettae Ashe is lectotypified and proposed as a hybrid *pro species*.

Ashe (1918) described *Vaccinium margarettae* from Rabun County South Carolina with designation of holotype. Instead, he stated representative specimens (= syntypes) were deposited in CHARL, CM, F, NY, US, and USC. The needed lectotype is selected:

VACCINIUM MARGARETTAE Ashe, *Torreyia* 18:71. 1918. *Cyanococcus margarettae* (Ashe) Small, *Man. Southeast Fl.* 1015, 1507. 1933. LECTOTYPE: GEORGIA. RABUN CO.: near Wiley, 1 Oct 1917, W.W. Ashe s.n. (US!); ISOLECTOTYPE: (NY!). Syntypes reported from F, CHARL, CM, and USC were not seen because they were not located despite search. Seven specimens from Oconee County, South Carolina, collected and determined by W.W. Ashe s.n. (NCU!). Two specimens from the same county collected and determined by L.J. Uttal (#'s 14661 and 14663), VPI!, USC!

The sheet holding the lectotype bears two segments, the lectotype itself, designated segment "A," and two flowering twigs collected from the same clump 5 May 1917, designated segment "B." A note on the label states that the fruit in July 1912 was "black and shining".

Camp (1945) ascribed *Vaccinium margarettae* as a hybrid between *Vaccinium atrococcum* (Gray) Heller \times *V. vacillans* Torr. The name of the first parent is now subsumed under *V. fuscatum* Ait. (Ward 1974); that of the second under *V. pallidum* Ait. (Rehder 1940). Camp (1945) provides a lead to this putative hybrid in a key to *Vaccinium* hybrids. He reports that environmental factors are often favorable for the production of this hybrid: *V. vacillans* often grows on dry hillsides adjacent to small streams, hillside springs, and seepage spots which host *V. atrococcum*. He describes the hybrid as "relatively low growing, with considerable pubescence on the leaves and with dark or black berries." He reports combinations between the putative parents as "numerous" with evident backcrossing. Camp and Gilly (1943) report a segregative population derived from this combination. I have putatively determined such segregates in NCU and VPI from North Carolina, South Carolina and Virginia.

Camp (1945) discussed *Vaccinium* hybrids as formulae. He wrote before present ICBN rules permitted the use of a binary name to apply to either a putative or definitive hybrid: hence *Vaccinium* × *margarettae* Ashe *pro. sp.* (*fuscatum* × *pallidum*). This name must be applied to all offspring of this cross, including backcrosses. Application of this name to specimens in the field is not overly difficult if one or both parents are present, as is usually the case. Determination of herbarium specimens is favored by experience in this group.

EXCLUDED TAXA:

- Vaccinium vacillans* var. *crinitum* Fern., *Rhodora* 13:236. 1911. (*V. pallidum* Ait.)
Vaccinium vacillans var. *missouriense* Ashe, *Torreyia* 25:10. 1925. (*V. pallidum* Ait.)
Vaccinium missouriense (Ashe) Ashe, *Rhodora* 33:195. 1931. (*V. pallidum* Ait.)

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